AN ACCOUNT OF THE Publick Affairs IN IRELAND,

Since the discovery of the

Late PLOT.

LONDON,

Printed in the Year, 1679.

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READER,

I *Have been long a loſer by Adventures in* Ireland, *and muſt own I have been led to think that every thing there went amiſs, becauſe my own Concerns did ſuffer. So that even before, but eſpecially ſince the diſcovery of this Helliſh Plot, I have very liberally helped on, what-ever I heard to the diſadvantage of the Government there, whether in the management of the Duke of* Ormond, *or the Adminiſtration of the Council. But having found by ſome turn of the Tide, That the great outcry of neglect and evil doing, hath called ſome Parties concerned, to give an Account of their Proceedings; I have*

been much changed in my Opinion, not only by particular Letters, but by sight of a Paper lately given in by the Earl of Ossory *to the House of Lords. So that I know not well how to expiate for all the uncharitable and injurious Reflections, which I confess I have contributed to, but by helping to undeceive others at my own Charge, and by putting the said Paper, with what I have since learn'd, into Print.*

And truly, besides this way of reparation, which in Justice I owe to those concerned, I think it some service to the Publick Safety, that the true extent of our Dangers and Security be known, and that we do not rend our Friends in pieces, instead of our Enemies. For such a method cannot fail to make our defence hopeless.

For

For my own part since my Opinion hath turn'd to better thoughts of things in Ireland, it must honestly be owned by us all, That the Duke of Ormond hath been still on the Loyal side, as also firm in all turns to the Protestant Cause. And when I consider with my self, how great a Fortune he hath in several parts of that Kingdom, which draws naturally on him a dependence of great Numbers; and that he hath also many Relations, among those of the Popish Party; and how, on the other side, the present quiet of that Kingdom can hardly arise from the terror of a small Army, or the poor provision of Stores, where the Papists are so very disproportionable in Numbers to the Protestants: I do plainly think that the said Duke is acting an extraordinary part; that by his Influence and In-

Interest he comes to know and divert the Evils that might happen: and prudently turns his Personal Advantages to the service and safety of the Public.

This is plain. Things are there in full Peace and Plenty, and for ought I hear, they fear nothing there, but what we fear here also. And my dayly Prayers are, for a Blessing on the publick Counsels, that it may be better with us both.

AN

AN EXTRACT of ſome Letters, Orders, and Proclamations, which have come from Ireland, *ſome to the Council-Board, and ſome to particular hands, which in part ſhew what hath been done ſince the Diſcovery of the Plot, and how things ſtand there in general: referring for full and exact Information unto ſuch account, as by the Lord Lieutenant and Council of that Kingdom will doubtleſs be given, when required thereunto.*

1.

THat when News of the Diſcovery of the Plot, and his Majeſties Order of the firſt of *October* laſt, came to the Lord Lieutenant, which was about the *7th* following: his Lordſhip was then at *Kilkenny*, newly returned from a Progreſs made by him into *Munſter*, to view the Forts and Places fit for Fortification; and in particular from ſeeing the new Fort begun by his Order the *March* preceding, for the defence of the Harbour of *Kin-*

ſale,

ſale, which work hath ſince gone on, and upon which is already expended above the value of 5000 *l.* it being a work of great Importance to the Safety of that Kingdom, and the ſecurity of all Ships reſorting to that Harbour.

2. That according to the ſaid Order the Lord Lieutenant did preſently give a Warrant for the Seiſure of *Peter Talbot* and of his Papers, and he was accordingly ſeiſed and made cloſe Priſoner in the Caſtle of *Dublin*: where he now ſo remains, and the Examinations taken were tranſmitted to his Majeſty in Council, and from thence to the Houſe of Lords the laſt Parliament, together with a Paper writ in his own hand, being an account of Treaſon laid to his Charge by one *Sergant*, which Paper 'tis probable he deſired ſhould be found; for no other Paper of moment could be found either in his Chamber or in his trunks, he having had time enough to put all out of reach, by the tidings it is likely he and many other Papiſts did receive of the diſcovery of the Plot, by Mr. *Oats* at the Council-Board, on *Saturday* the 28*th* of *September*, and the Intelligence ſent away that Night. The Lord Lieutenant did alſo according to his Orders, ſecure Mr. *Butler*, a Son of the Lord *Mount-*

garrets,

garrets: but that Lord himſelf being of extream age and infirmities, was and lies ſtill Bed-rid. And Colonel *Richard Talbot* was alſo committed to ſafe and cloſe Cuſtody, as ſoon as ever the Orders and Accuſations againſt him were tranſmitted into *Ireland*, and ſo he ſtill remains.

3. The Lord Lieutenant alſo haſtned to *Dublin*, and arriving there the 11*th* of *October*, he preſently called upon the Council, and they met from day to day, to conſider of the public Safety: aud did iſſue from time to time ſeveral Orders and Proclamations as followeth.

A Proclamation, ſtrictly requiring all Officers and Souldiers to repair to their reſpective Garriſons and Quarters, and not to depart from them without Licence. *October* 14. 1678

Another Proclamation, requiring all Titular Arch-Biſhops, Biſhops, Vicars General, Abbots, and other Dignitaries of the Church of *Rome*, and all others exerciſing Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction by Authority from the Pope; as alſo all Jeſuits, and other regular Prieſts, to depart the Kingdom by the 20 of *November* next. And that all Popiſh Societies, Convents, Seminaries, *October* 16. 1678.

and Popiſh Schools ſhould diſſolve and ſeparate themſelves, under the penalties therein mentioned. All Perſons were forbid to harbour them, and all Magiſtrates commanded to enquire, puniſh or certify the diſobedience therein. And that the Perſons ſo commanded to leave the Kingdom, might not pretend want of convenience for Tranſportation;

Novemb. 6. 1678. Another Proclamation iſſued, requiring all Owners and Maſters of Ships, bound to parts beyond the Sea, to ſet up Notice in Writing in the moſt public Places, of the time of their departure. And they were required to take on Board all ſuch Eccleſiaſticks, as ſhould deſire to go with them. And the Officers of the Cuſtoms were commanded to ſtop all Ships, that did not give ſuch notice of their departure.

Novemb. 2. 1678. Another Proclamation iſſued, Commanding that no Papiſt in the Kingdom ſhould thenceforth preſume to ride with, carry, buy, keep or uſe any Arms whatſoever, without Licenſe. That within twenty days after the date thereof, or 7 days after the Receipt of any Arms, they were required to deliver them up to certain of the moſt

moſt noted Proteſtants, for that purpoſe named in the ſeveral Counties, who were to take ſuch Arms and give Receipts for what they took, and ſend the ſame to his Majeſties Stores. That the Juſtices of the Peace and Officers of the Army ſhould, after the time expired, ſearch for and ſeiſe the Arms of unlicenſed Perſons; or if they found more Arms than were expreſſed, with thoſe that had Licenſe, they were to bind the Delinquents over to the next Aſſizes or Seſſions of the County. And all Perſons of the Popiſh Religion, and all Merchants and others, retailers of Powder, were required to ſend in an account of their Stores, if the ſame exceeded one pound, and of any Powder which they might afterwards receive.

Another Proclamation iſſued, forbidding Papiſts to come into the Caſtle of *Dublin*, or into any Fort or Citadel of that Kingdom: Appointing alſo that the Fairs, and weekly Markets of certain places, *viz. Drogheda*, *Wexford*, *Cork*, *Limerick*, *Waterford*, *Youghal* and *Galloway*, be thenceforth kept without the Walls of the ſaid Garriſons. And that Papiſts be not ſuffered to continue or reſide in the ſaid Towns, or in *Novemb.* 20. 1678.

any Corporations, where Garriſons were kept, unleſs they had for the greateſt part of twelve months paſt, inhabited in ſuch Towns. And that no perſons of the Popiſh Religion any ways armed, be ſuffer'd to come into the ſaid Fairs or Markets. And alſo ſtrictly requiring all Papiſts to forbear any unſeaſonable, or night-Meetings, or in great or unuſual Numbers in any part of the Kingdom. And commanding all Officers Civil and Military, to be careful to prevent and diſſolve all ſuch Meetings, to commit the principal Offenders to Priſon, till they find good ſecurity to anſwer the ſame the next Seſſions; and to return an account of their Proceedings therein, with the Names of ſuch as occaſioned or countenanced the ſame unto the Council-Board.

Novemb. 20. 1678. Another Proclamation iſſued the ſame day, promiſing a Reward of 10 *l.* for every Commiſſion'd Officer, 5 *l.* for every Trooper, and 40 *s.* for every Foot-Souldier, to ſuch as ſhould diſcover any of them, to have been perverted to the *Romiſh* Religion, or heard Maſs, who had formerly taken the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy. And the like to the Diſcoverer of any that ſhould afterwards be perverted. Beſides

Beſides that, It was a Rule begun in the preſent Lord Lieutenant's firſt Government after the King's Reſtauration, and ever ſince continued, That the Muſter-maſter ſhould check the Pay of every Officer and Souldier of the Army, who does not produce a Certificate from the Biſhop or Miniſter of the Place, of his having taken the Sacrament according to the Church of *England*, twice every Year.

That being Informed, That ſeveral of the Titular Biſhops, and Regular Clergy, had not obeyed the Proclamation of the *16th* of *October* laſt, for their Departure, there iſſued a circular Letter from the Lord Lieutenant and Council: whereby all Juſtices of the Peace are commanded to make deligent ſearch after them; to commit them to Priſons: and to return the Names of their Receivers and Harbourers, that they might be proceeded againſt according to Law. *December* 2. 1678.

Another Proclamation iſſued, highly reſenting the ſlackneſs of the Juſtices, &c. in executing the late Proclamation for ſearching after and ſeizing of Arms, requiring therefore a further *December* 12. 1678.

ther ſearch, and propoſing a method for preventing of forged Licenſes. And to look upon all who ſhould be remiſs in their Duties, as Contemners of the King's Authority, and proceeded againſt as the Abettors of thoſe who diſturb the Peace.

December 13. 1678. Another Proclamation iſſued, taking notice of a Letter ſcattered in the Streets of *Dublin*, intimating a Conſpiracy againſt the Life of the Lord Lieutenant, promiſing Protection and 200 *l.* Reward unto the Diſcoverer. And it afterwards appear'd that one *Jephſon* a young man, perverted from his Religion by ſome *Iriſh* Prieſts was a Party engaged in that Deſign; and two *Iriſh* Prieſts, his Abettors therein, were taken and put into Cuſtody: and their Examinations tranſmitted to the Council here, and from thence ſent to the Houſe of Lords.

There were two great Queſtions among others under the ſerious Debate of the Lord Lieutenant and Council, from whence much ill grounded Reflection hath ariſen; The one about ſecuring the principal Heads of the moſt conſiderable Clans, or Families of the *Iriſh*, who have loſt their Eſtates: ſome ſuppoſing that it might

might conduce to the ſafety of the *Engliſh*, if ſuch Heads were in reſtraint, and that their Followers would not then preſume or adventure to run into Rebellion. But upon ſerious Conſiderations it was thought, That ſuch a proceeding might rather quicken a Rebellion than prevent it. For the Numerous Followers who depended wholly upon their Maſters Intereſt and Authority, for the ſupport of themſelves and Families, being angred or afrighted at the ill uſage of their Principals, and being looſned from all Dependances, might rather put themſelves upon ſome unlawful way of Living, by turning *Tories*, than intruſt themſelves to the pleaſure of the Government, and in the quality of *Tories* they would be equally miſcheivous, and eſpecially to the *Engliſh* diſperſed in their remote Dwellings, as a ſmall Rebellion. Beſides this, further reaſon did diſſuade the taking up theſe chief men as Hoſtages. For if their Followers were but few, they could not do the *Engliſh* much hurt, as they are, but if ſtrong and numerous it would be eaſily in their power to ſurprize ſo many *Engliſh* Gentlemen living in their remote and ſcattered Dwellings in the Country, as would ſoon redeem ſuch Hoſtages, and thereby render

all

all the Charge and Care of ſuch an Undertaking fruitleſs, and only ſerve to breed ill blood. So that the Lord Lieutenant hath in ſome meaſure ſteered a different Courſe, by ſhewing civility, and giving good words, to ſuch of the Heads of the *Iriſh* as come neer him; whereby he finds out early what is doing among their Dependants, and hath conceived this method of obviating Dangers more ſafe, than either by Rigors to compel them or their Followers to live always in Conjunction, and talk of their misfortunes, or by Impriſonment of ſo many of the Nobility of a Kingdom without Crimes objected, or Commands from hence, incur the Cenſure of Arbitrary Proceedings, which are neither ſafe or fit for him to bear.

Another Point which hath been under Conſideration before the Lord Lieutenant and Council, was a Propoſal for dreyning the Corporations (eſpecially thoſe that are Garriſon'd) from the numbers of *Iriſh* Papiſts that live among them, in order to prevent any Surpriſe or Private Conſpiracy. But when it was reflected on, That notwithſtanding the ſeveral Orders and Proclamations that have from time to time been

been iſſued from the Government for the Expulſion of *Iriſh* Inhabitants and Servants from the Towns and Garriſons; and that very few in reſpect of the number complained of were Licenſed to return: It was manifeſt that it was the *Engliſh* themſelves, who did in moſt places receive them in again for their own advantage, not knowing well how to live without them. They wanted Servants and Tenants and Tradeſmen (for of ſuch are theſe numbers in the Towns conſtituted) and the *Iriſh* Papiſts ſupplied them with ſuch: and the *Engliſh* did not conceive this ſort of People to be ſo dangerous as beneficial unto them: So that the Lord Lieutenant and Council do only forbear their expulſion in whole or in part, for convenience and gratification to the *Engliſh*. However 'tis certain there can never be a true Remedy herein, as to the ſecurity and improvement of that Kingdom, unleſs by a large acceſſion of *Engliſh* and Proteſtants there. And untill that ſhall happen, all other Trials upon thoſe ſort of *Iriſh* will be in a manner but to lay ſome Towns, and very much of the Lands of the Proteſtants quite waſt and untenanted. And yet it ſo falls out, That many on this ſide not conſidering the diſproportion of the

Iriſh to the *Engliſh*, nor the difference of the Laws there as to Capital and pecuniary Mulcts from what they are in *England*, do think many things are defective, becauſe they are not there executed as they are, and may be executed in this Kingdom.

Upon theſe and other reaſons of weight, the two Propoſitions forementioned were thought impracticable. But the principal and preſent ſecurity of that Kingdom conſiſting in the ballancing the Numbers of *Iriſh* with a ſuperiority of ſtrength and leaving them naked, and the *Engliſh* in Arms, The Lord Lieutenant and Council did think fit to revive the Commiſſion of Array, ſo that the Militia of that Kingdom hath been raiſed in all parts, and is now found in a better Condition than ever it was known to be. And to ſupply the defect of Arms for ſuch Militia, there were not only appointed ſome Merchants as publick Undertakers to bring in Arms from abroad: but withal not wholly to depend upon their performance, the Lord Lieutenant hath procured a ſupply out of his Majeſties Stores here of Powder and Arms to the value of about 13000*l.* which are now actually landed in *Ireland*, and for payment of which he himſelf ſtands

ſtands engaged to the Office of Ordnance here, until a Parliament do meet in *Ireland* to make proviſion for things of this Importance. But ſurely to have proceeded with any Degree of Precipitation while the *Engliſh* were ſo unfurniſhed, had not been very prudential.

As to his Majeſties Forces in that Kingdom, they are well diſciplin'd and well paid, and it hath pleaſed his Majeſty lately to ſend over a reinforcement of about 1200 Men. And the Army is ſo diſtributed, as that the Cities (which are the Garriſons of that Kingdom) are ſecured as well as it is poſſible for the proportion of ſuch a Militia, and ſuch an Army to make them.

There is all the diſcountenance given to Maſs-Houſes in all places, which the Laws of that Kingdom will bear. Nor is there Licence for any Arms given to any but ſuch as need them, and for no more than is neceſſary for their ſecurity againſt Tories in their remote and ſcattered Habitations, and for whoſe Loyalty and peaceable Demeanour, the Lord Lieutenant is firſt ſufficiently certified by ſome Proteſtants of Note.

The Forts are in as good a Condition as the Stores and the Revenue of that Kingdom will allow, and perhaps somewhat better. But it is manifeſt that much more is needful in every kind in caſe of Forreign Attempts. And therefore ſeeing the Charge of the Government, and the Income of the Revenue are ſo exactly ballanced by a ſetled Eſtabliſhment, that it is not in the Power of the Lord Lieutenant to alter the ſame, and that no Money can be raiſed from the Subject but by Act of Parliament; Therefore the Lord Lieutenant hath been long endeavouring to have a Parliament called, and to that end ſeveral Bills were tranſmitted the laſt Summer from the Lord Lieutenant and Council, which now remain at the Council-Board here, together with a large Repreſentation of the State of Accounts depending with the Lord *Ranelagh* and his Partners, who were late Undertakers for the Revenue of that Kingdom. And until there ſhall be leiſure (which ſince the diſcovery of this horrid Plot there ſcarce hath been) to ſend back theſe things, with the mature Conſiderations they deſerve, there is no viſible means left for the raiſing and augmenting the Publick Revenue to ſuch a proportion as may put that Kingdom in a ſuf-

ſufficient poſture of defence, as to Army, Fortifications and Stores, in caſe of any powerful Invaſion.

But for the preſent all things are there in full Peace and Quietneſs.

And for further account of the preſent State of that Kingdom, and of what hath there been done, or further reaſon of the particulars here mentioned, or of any other thing which may have been left undone; There is no doubt but full ſatisfaction will be given by the Lord Lieutenant and Council, when ſuch particular Enquiries and Demands are made as ſhall be thought convenient.

All which is humbly ſubmitted.

A Con-

A Continuation of the former Account, from ſuch faithful Relations, as have ſince come to ſeveral Hands from Ireland.

ORders having been iſſued forth to the Commiſſioners of Array for viewing the Militia, and they certifying by ſeveral Returns, that many Arms were wanting both in the Troops and Foot-Companies; the Lord Lieutenant made application to his Majeſty, to have Arms & Ammunition ſent from *England.*

And ſome Merchants in this Kingdom, *viz. John Rogerſon*, and *John Caſtleton* of *Dublin*, and *George Mac Cartney* of *Bellfaſt*, did propoſe to bring in ſeveral quantities of Arms and Ammunition, and to place the ſame in his Majeſties Magazins, or to ſell or diſpoſe of them in ſuch manner as the Lord Lieutenant and Council ſhould appoint, at reaſonable rates. And accordingly Licences were granted and ſigned for them, and the ſaid *Mac Cartney* took out his Licence.

But the Officers of the Ordnance in *Ireland*, pro.

propoſing to bring Arms and Ammunition out of his Majeſties Magazine in the Tower of *London*, and to furniſh the Kingdom with ſuch proportions, as the Lord Lieutenant ſhould think fit, at as reaſonable Rates, as any others could do, for as good and ſervicable Arms: The other Licences were ſtayed, having not been call'd for by the ſaid Merchants, before theſe Propoſals of the Officers of the Ordnance.

Letters from the Council-board iſſued to the Commiſſioners of Array in the ſeveral Counties, giving them notice of the expectation of the ſuddain arrival of Arms and Ammunition out of *England*: and that they ſhould certifie to the Board the quantity and quality of the Arms they would have occaſion to buy for the uſe of the Militia, and to have the money ready to be paid upon delivery of the Arms. *March.* 3. 1678.

Letters were ſent to ſeveral perſons at *Galway* and *Buffin*, to be diligent in ſearching and ſeizing on any Arms that might be brought in there, upon intimation, that at *Breſt*, Arms were put on board two Fly-boats belonging to *Galway*, the Maſters whereof were Papiſts. *March.* 11. 1678.

And

And Directions were given to the Farmers of the Revenue to write to the Officers of the ſeveral Ports in the Kingdom, to be very diligent in ſearching for and ſecuring all Arms and Ammunition which ſhould be brought into the Kingdom.

March 26. 1679. A Proclamation iſſued out againſt Tories and Robbers. And, for the reaſons therein expreſſed, for ſeizing their neareſt Relations, that is to ſay, their Wives, Fathers, Mothers, Brothers and Siſters of ſuch of them as ſhall be out upon their keeping, that is not ameaneable to Law, and committing them to cloſe Priſon, until ſuch Tories ſhall be kill'd or taken.

And alſo for ſeizing and committing to Priſon the reſpective Popiſh pretended *Pariſh-Prieſts*, & tranſporting them thence beyond the Seas: unleſs within fourteen dayes after any Robbery, Burglary or Murder committed, the Perſons who are guilty ſhall be Kill'd or Taken, or Diſcovery made within that time, ſo that ſuch Offenders may be apprehended, and brought to Juſtice.

A Pro-

A Proclamation iſſued forth for Reward to ſuch Perſons, as ſhall apprehend any of the popiſh regular Clergy, who have not tranſported themſelves, according to a former Proclamation. *March.* 16. 1679

Viz.

For every Titular Arch-Biſhop, or Biſhop, and every Jeſuit ten pounds; and for every other perſon commanded by the ſaid Proclamation to depart, five pounds.

An Order of the Lord Lieutenant and Council, was ſent to the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of *Dublin*, for Diſſolving and Diſperſing the Meetings in ſeveral Maſs-houſes in the City and Suburbs of *Dublin*, And not to permit any Popiſh Services to be celebrated in the ſaid Houſes, or other Publick places within the ſaid City or Suburbs. And to apprehend and commit to Priſon ſuch as ſhall offend, until they find ſecurity to anſwer at the Quarter Seſſions. *Mar.* 31. 1679.

Letters ſent from the Council-Board in order to the removing of all Papiſts Inhabitants out of *Galway*, *Lymrick*, *Waterford*, *Kilkenny*, *Clonmel*,

and *Drogheda*, except ſome few Trading Merchants, Artificers, and others, neceſſary for the ſaid Towns and Garriſons; thoſe being the principal in the Kingdom, where the *Papiſts* are moſt numerous.

Letters ſent from the Council-Board, to the Chief Magiſtrates of the ſeveral Corporations of *Cork*, *Lymerick*, *Waterford*, *Youghal*, *Clonmel*, *Galway*, *Kilkenny*, *Drogheda*, *Kinſale*, *Wexford*, *Athlone* and *Roſs*, for ſuppreſſing the Aſſemblies of the Papiſts, and prohibiting the celebration of their Popiſh Services within and without the Walls of the ſaid Corporations.

April. 7. 1679. An Order iſſued out from the Lord Lieutenant, commanding Colonel *Fitz-Patrick* immediately to depart from the City of *Dublin*, and not to come within twenty miles thereof, or of any other place where his Lordſhip ſhould at any time reſide, as he ſhould anſwer the contrary at his utmoſt peril.

FINIS.